

Town Council Finance Sub-committee Meeting Minutes
LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM
Second Floor
Falmouth Town Hall
APRIL 13th, 2015 – 3:00PM

Members Attendance: Russell Andersen, Caleb Hemphill

Others in Attendance: Nathan Poore (Town Manager); Peter McHugh (Finance Director); Susan Gibney (Accountant); Pete Clark (Wastewater Superintendent).

The meeting was called to order @ 3:00PM

1. Approval of the minutes from March 26th 2015 Meeting.
 - a. Councilor Hemphill moved to approve the minutes, Councilor Anderson seconded. Motion carried 2-0.
2. Presentation of proposed FY 2016 Wastewater Budget.
 - a. Nathan Poore gave an overview of the department.
 - i. Last rate increase was in 2007
 - ii. We are projecting that a 7-8% rate increase may be needed next year due to the Mill Creek Project and its related bond issuance.
 - b. There was then a discussion of specific items in the Budget proposal led by Councilors Anderson and Hemphill.
 - i. Electricity is a very significant portion of total expenses and Councilor Anderson asked if we have looked at alternatives.
 1. Pete Clark then walked through the different alternatives.
 - a. Solar Panel installation costs would have been \$500K to produce \$28K annual savings which does not meet payback goals
 - b. The 2007 plant upgrade produced annual savings of 45% in electricity usage
 2. There was a discussion about sludge composting moving in-house versus outsourcing and it was not cost effective.
 - ii. There are 31 pump stations ½ of which have backup generators; the rest of the stations are served with portable generators.
 - iii. Councilor Anderson asked about the Mill Creek Project timing
 1. The pump station project will take 18 months and the Force Main project will take one construction season.
 - iv. Councilors Anderson and Hemphill agreed that they support the proposed Wastewater Budget and recommend approval.
3. Presentation of the Vehicle Maintenance proposed budget.
 - a. Nathan Poore explained that no action was needed on this department as all costs associated with this department are contained in the operating budget.
 - i. Costs are charged back to departments for service and department is cash flow neutral.
4. Councilor Anderson asked that we continue to look at energy savings going forward.

5. Adjourn

- a. Councilor Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting and Councilor Hemphill seconded.
- b. The meeting adjourned at 3:54PM

Respectfully submitted by Peter McHugh